

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Peter G. Hwang et al.

Serial No.: 10/698,823

Filed: October 31, 2003

Docket No.: 200206327-1

Title: IMAGING APPARATUS WITH STOWABLE MEDIA TRAY

REMARKS

The following Remarks are made in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed March 25, 2008, in which claims 1-43 were rejected.

With this Amendment, claims 15-18 and 26-29 have been cancelled without prejudice, claim 44 has been added, and claims 1-14, 19-22, 30-32, 34, and 36-43 have been amended to clarify Applicant's invention.

Claims 1-14, 19-25, and 30-44, therefore, remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: 243.

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: 242.

With this Amendment, Applicant has amended the Specification to correct the noted reference numerals. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the objection to the drawings be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claim Objections

Claims 2-5 and 14 are objected to because of the following informalities: the claims use the language "to in the," such as in the context of "to in the interior portion" or "to in the link."

Claim 20 is objected to because of the following informalities: the claim states "a slideable portion for allowing a third portion of the of the first media tray and the second media tray to slide with respect to another portion of the first media tray and the second media tray."

Claim 40 is objected to because of the following informalities: the claim states "pivoting a lid of a imaging apparatus from the position to the closed position."

With this Amendment, Applicant has corrected the noted informalities. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the claim objections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

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Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 6-13, 19, and 30-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kagami et al. US Patent No. 6,991,331.

Claims 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Katsuyama US Patent No. 6,848,685.

Claims 4, 5, and 20-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kagami et al. US Patent No. 6,991,331 in view of Egashira et al. US Patent No. 5,567,068.

With this Amendment, claims 15-18 and 26-29 have been cancelled without prejudice. The rejections of claims 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and claims 26-29 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), therefore, are rendered moot.

With this Amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the imaging apparatus includes "a first media tray movably attached to the interior portion of the housing," and "a second media tray movably attached to the interior portion of the housing," wherein "one of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an input tray for the imaging apparatus, and the other of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an output tray for the imaging apparatus."

With this Amendment, independent claim 19 has been amended to clarify that the imaging apparatus includes "a first media tray," and "a second media tray," wherein "one of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an input tray for the imaging apparatus, and the other of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an output tray for the imaging apparatus."

With this Amendment, independent claim 22 has been amended to clarify that "one of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an input tray, and the other of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an output tray."

With this Amendment, independent claim 30 has been amended to clarify that the imaging apparatus includes "a first media tray and a second media tray each being at least partially disposed within the carriage swept volume," wherein "one of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an input tray for the imaging apparatus, and the other of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an output tray for the imaging apparatus."

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With this Amendment, independent claim 34 has been amended to clarify that the imaging apparatus includes "a first media tray and a second media tray each being at least partially disposed within the interior cavity and outside the carriage swept volume when in a stowed position," wherein "one of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an input tray for the imaging apparatus, and the other of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an output tray for the imaging apparatus."

With this Amendment, independent claim 39 has been amended to clarify that the method includes "pivoting a lid of an imaging apparatus from a closed position to an open position to increase access to a first media tray and a second media tray," and "rotating each the first media tray and the second media tray from a stowed position to a deployed position," wherein "one of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an input tray for the imaging apparatus, and the other of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an output tray for the imaging apparatus."

Independent claims 1, 19, 22, 30, 34, and 39, therefore, each include a first media tray and a second media tray, wherein one of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an input tray for the imaging apparatus, and the other of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an output tray for the imaging apparatus.

With respect to the Kagami and Egashira references, Applicant submits that these references, individually or in combination, do not disclose an imaging apparatus as claimed in independent claim 1, do not disclose an imaging apparatus as claimed in independent claim 19, do not disclose a method for moving a first media tray and a second media tray from a stowed position to a deployed position as claimed in independent claim 22, do not disclose an imaging apparatus as claimed in independent claim 30, do not disclose an imaging apparatus as claimed in independent claim 34, and do not disclose a method as claimed in independent claim 39 including a first media tray and a second media tray, wherein one of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an input tray for the imaging apparatus, and the other of the first media tray or the second media tray provides an output tray for the imaging apparatus.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 19, 22, 30, 34, and 39, and the dependent claims depending therefrom, are each patentably distinct from the cited references and, therefore, are each in a condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore,

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respectfully requests that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that claims 1-14, 19-25, and 30-44 be allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-14, 19-25, and 30-44 are all in a condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of all pending claims.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either Nathan R. Rieth at Telephone No. (208) 396-5287, Facsimile No. (208) 396-3958 or Scott A. Lund at Telephone No. (612) 573-2006, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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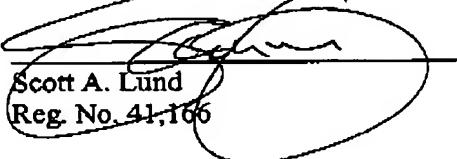
Respectfully submitted,

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